

## Message Text

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70

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 MMS-04 ACDA-19 NIC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /160 W

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R 021552Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 527

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SANTIAGO 6009

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: CI, PFOR

SUBJECT: CARDINAL RAUL SILVA AND HUMAN RIGHTS

1. RECENT PUBLIC LETTER TO CARDINAL RAUL SILVA REQUESTED HIS ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING RELEASE OF JURI GRIGOVIEVICH PRONIN, CURRENTLY DETAINED IN USSR. LETTER FROM DETAINEE'S WIFE, A CHILEAN CITIZEN NAMED MARIA ELIANA E. DE PRONIN, WAS GIVEN PROMINENT LOCAL PRESS COVERAGE SEPT 26. TEXT OF LETTER WAS WRITTEN IN SOMETIMES IRONICAL TONE, APPEALING TO CARDINAL'S "NOBLE CHRISTIAN HEART TOWARDS CHILEAN POLITICAL DETAINEES." CONTINUING, DETAINEE'S WIFE SAID SHE BELIEVES AN AUTHORITY SUCH AS THE CARDINAL, "WHO HAS SO MANY TIMES DEFENDED THE DETAINEES OF THE LEFT," COULD INFLUENCE SOVIET AUTHORITIES TO RELEASE HER HUSBAND. SAID MARRIED PRONIN IN JANUARY 1968, AND HUSBAND SINCE AUGUST 1968 DETAINED IN UJTA CAMP FOR HAVING TRIED TO LEAVE USSR ILLEGALLY.

2. CARDINAL RESPONDED PUBLIC (OCT 1) IN FORM OF LETTER TO CONSERVATIVE "EL MERCURIO," REITERATING HIS INTENTION TO USE ALL HIS STRENGTH TO HELP THOSE WHO SUFFER," REGARDLESS OF OTHER  
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CONSIDERATIONS." IN RESPONSE, CARDINAL ASSURED WIFE AND PUBLIC

THAT HE WOULD DO ALL POSSIBLE ON DETAINEE'S BEHALF, ALTHOUGH HE HAS NO RELATIONS WITH USSR AND IS NOT OPTIMISTIC.

3. COMMENT. PRESS COVERAGE OF LETTER EXCHANGE, AND PERHAPS REQUEST ITSELF, IS OBVIOUS CONTINUATION OF PRESS HARASSMENT OF CARDINAL FOR HIS CRITICISM OF GOC HUMAN RIGHTS STANCE, AND FOR HIS SILENCE DURING CHILEAN HUE AND CRY OVER HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN USSR AND CUBA. IN HIS RESPONSE, CARDINAL SOFTLY REBUKED CRITICS AND GOC BY STATING, "MOREOVER I BELIEVE IT IS CLEAR TO YOU (EL MERCURIO) THAT THE CARDINAL'S REQUESTS TO AUTHORITIES, EVEN THOSE WITH MORE INTIMATE TIES TO HIM, ARE NOT ALWAYS WELL RECEIVED."  
POPPER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HUMAN RIGHTS, DETENTION, PRESS COMMENTS, TEXT, PRISONERS RELEASE, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 02 OCT 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CollinP0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Office:** ACTION ARA  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, CI, UR, (CARDINAL RAUL SILVA), (GRIGOVIEVICH PRONIN, JURI)  
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